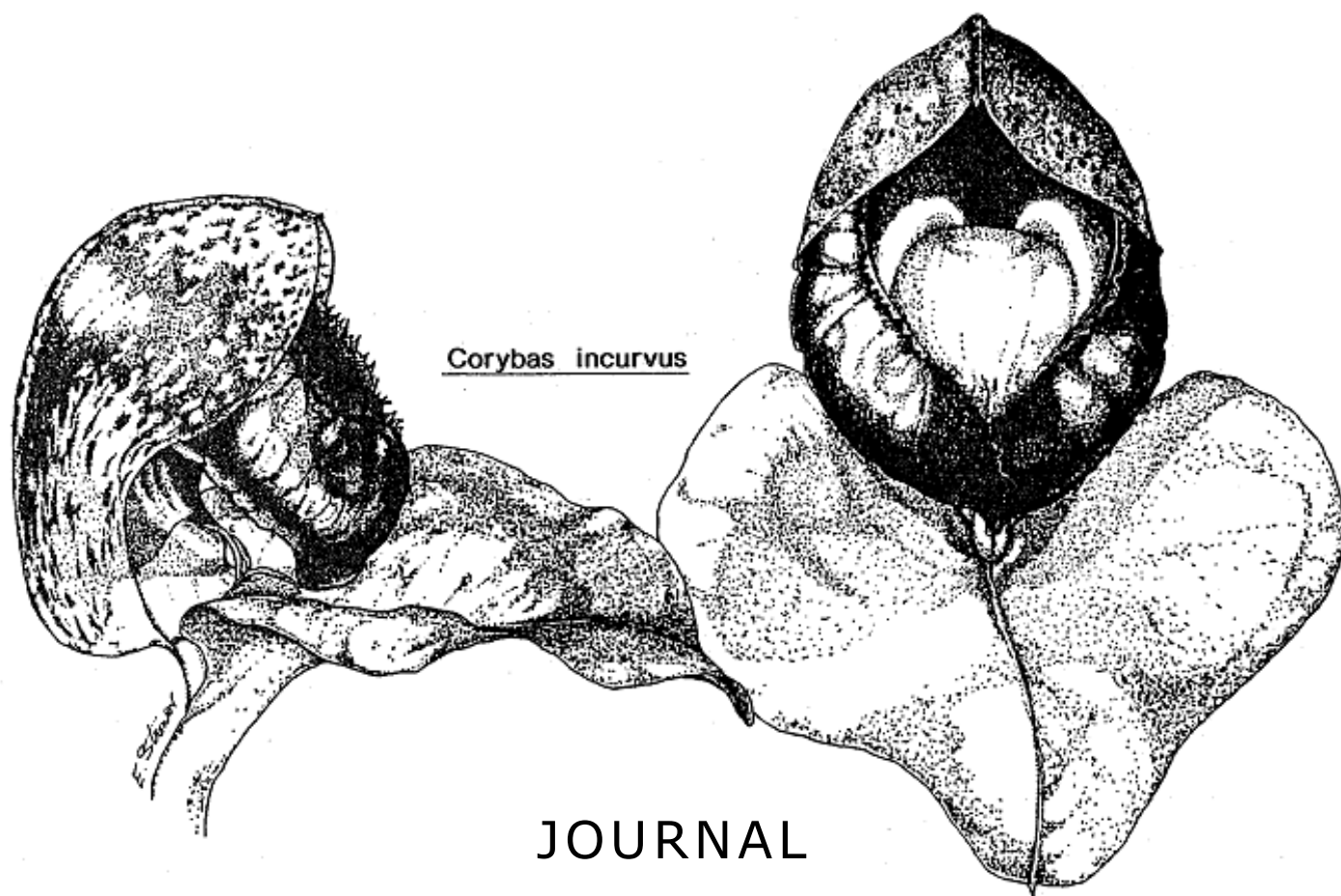


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November 1990



NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY
of
SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

The Native Orchid Society of South Australia promotes the conservation of native orchids through cultivation of native orchids, through preservation of naturally-occurring orchid plants and natural habitat.

Except with documented official representation from the Management Committee of the native orchid society of South Australia, no person is authorised to represent the society on any matter.

All native orchids are protected plants in the wild Their collection without written Government permit is illegal.

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Views and opinions expressed by the authors of articles within this Journal do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the N.O.S.S.A Management Committee

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**NATIVE ORCHID SOCIETY
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.
JOURNAL**

November 1990

Vol 14 No 10

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NEXT MEETING

When: Tuesday, 27 November, 1990 at 8.00 p.m

Where: St Matthews Hall, Bridge Street, Kensington

Why: Members are reminded that the November break-up meeting signals our traditional pre-Christmas auction Now is your chance to bring plants (orchids - all types, ferns, etc), pots, accessories, etc, for auction - remember all proceeds go to your Society This really is an enjoyable evening A plate of supper to round off proceedings would be appreciated Visitors are welcome

LAST MEETING

The October meeting was set aside for a display of epiphyte mounting and terrestrial repotting These cultural demonstrations were given: by Ron Robjohns, Les Nesbitt and Reg Shooter and were well received by those in attendance,

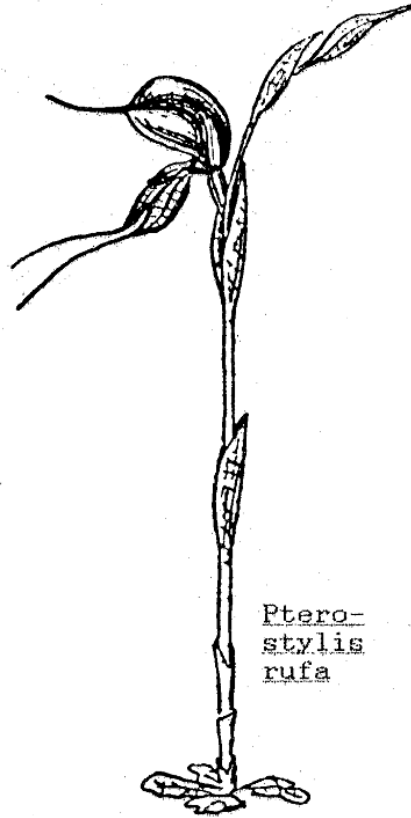
ERRATUM

The page numbers for last-month's Journal and those stated within the "Contents" were different Please accept my apologies and note that the pages themselves were correctly numbered Ed

PLANTS BENCHED OCTOBER MEETING

Terrestrials

Caladenia behrii
C carnea
C calcicola
Chiloglottis gunnii
C trapeziformis
Diuris corymbosa (4)
D aurea x brevifolia
D lanceolata x
 brevifolia
D laxiflora (2)
D maculata
D punctata
D punctata x "Old Vic"
Phaius tankervillae
Prasophyllum morganii
Pterostylis Cutie
P furcata x x ingens
P rufa
Sepia cordigela
 (South Africa)



Ptero-
stylis
rufa

Epiphytes

Dendrobium beckleri
D canaliculatum (2)
D delicatum "Apple Blossom"
D discolor
D Ella Victoria
 Leaney (2)
D kingianum (2)
D linguiforme (3)
D monophyllum
D ruppianum (3)
D Rutherford Surprise
D striolatum
D suffusum "Rosie"
D trilamellatum
Sarcochilus hartmannii
 (4)
S hartmannii x Redheart
S Lois x ceciliae
S Melba x fitzgeraldi

PLANT COMMENTARY

Mr L Burgess
 (terrestrials)

Mr R Shooter
 (epiphytes)

RESULTS OF JUDGING

Terrestrial species:

Diuris punctata "Old Vic",
 grown by Mr Les Nesbitt.
 and *Chiloglottis gunnii*,
 grown by Ms C Hoskings.

Terrestrial hybrid:

Pterostylis furcata x x ingens,
 grown by Mr Les Nesbitt.

Epiphyte species:

Sarcochilus hartmannii,
 grown by Mr L Chambers.

Epiphyte hybrid

Dendrobium Ella Victoria Leaney,
 grown by Mr G Hawkins

Terrestrial:

Chiloglottis gunnii,
 grown by Ms C Hoskings.

Epiphyte:

Sarcochilus hartmannii,
 grown by Mr L Chambers.

DENDROBIUM TETRAGONUM (Tree Spider Orchid) A Cunningham

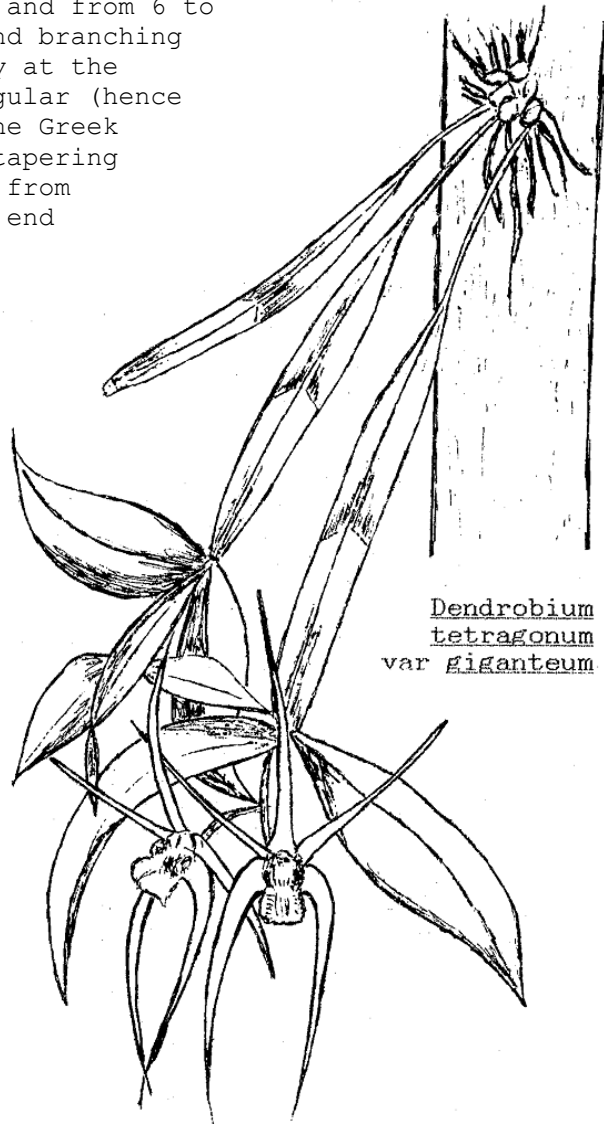
Dendrobium tetragonum is a variable epiphytic species growing mainly in rainforest areas from Illawarra in New South Wales to the Endeavour River in Queensland. A favourite haunt is on trees overhanging water, often in deep shade. It has a variety of hosts (including Myrtles, Eugenias, Water Gums and occasionally Melaleuca) on which it grows into small clumps. Altitude is of little concern as it is found from near sea level to approximately 1000 metres.

The stems, which are semi-pendulous and from 6 to 45 cm long, arise from a prostrate and branching rhizome. They are round, thin and wiry at the base but thickening to become rectangular (hence the name *tetragonum* - derived from the Greek "tetra" meaning "four-sided"), then tapering slightly before the leaves. There are from 2 to 5 leaves up to 8 cm long at the end of the stems. They are deep green in colour and often with crinkled or wavy margins.

The racemes appear from between the leaves but are short and have from one to five flowers which are widely spreading and spidery in appearance. The colour is greenish/yellow with irregular and variable brown, red and purple markings. In size, the flowers are from 4 to 9 cm from the top of the dorsal sepal to the tip of the lateral sepal and they have quite a pronounced fragrance.

D. tetragonum does not lend itself readily to pot culture and should be mounted. I have it growing on Melaleuca and cork slabs, but best results have been with one mounted on a hardwood slab.

I find that it needs a little more than 50% shade plus humidity and, of course, plenty of air movement. Protect from frosts. Fertilise in the growing period with foliar fertiliser at half recommended strength.



Hybridisation - Over 120 hybrids having *D tetragonum* in the parentage have been registered It has proved to be very dominant in shape and size while the variety *giganteum* passes on the habit of flowering more than once during the year Its most popular hybrid has been Hilda Poxon which we frequently see benched at our meetings

The plant formerly known as *D tetragonum* var *giganteum* (the tropical variety with a range from the Fitzroy to the Endeavour Rivers) has now been raised to species rank as *Dendrobium capitisyork* (Clements and Jones) This change will cause many problems for the hybridist as *D tetragonum* var *giganteum* was much used and difficulties will be encountered in ascertaining the exact parentage of many of the progeny

BOTANISTS OF THE ORCHIDS No 12.

JOHN LINDLEY, Ph.D., F.R.S., F.L.S (1799-1865)

One of the greatest of Orchidologists Lindley was born and died near London He became assistant librarian to Sir Joseph Banks while still a teenager and at 23 he was assistant secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society As his father was a nurseryman he had an early interest in plants At 30 he was first professor of Botany at London University

Lindley was the man instrumental in the purchase of Kew Gardens as a research institute and he set up the orchid house there, encouraging collectors from all over the world (including Australia) As early as the 1830's he had some dozen Australians sending him orchid material (both pressed and live) - it is a pity that no South Australian collectors were available In Tasmania he had R C Gunn; in Western Australia, J Drummond; and in the east, Mitchell

At least 100 Australian orchids were named by Lindley His major publications being a sketch of the "Vegetation of the Swan River Colony" (1839) and his "Genera and 'Species of Orchidaceous Plants" (1840)

Today the world's chief taxonomic journal dealing with orchids is appropriately named *Lindleyana* The taxonomy of orchids was, in fact, the major thrust in his life

Lindley's Orchid herbarium is still intact today and housed at Kew Gardens Microfiche of all his orchid herbarium are available at Adelaide Herbarium

An orchid named after him is *Prasophyllum lindleyanum*

Sandy Phillips

FIELD TRIP REPORT

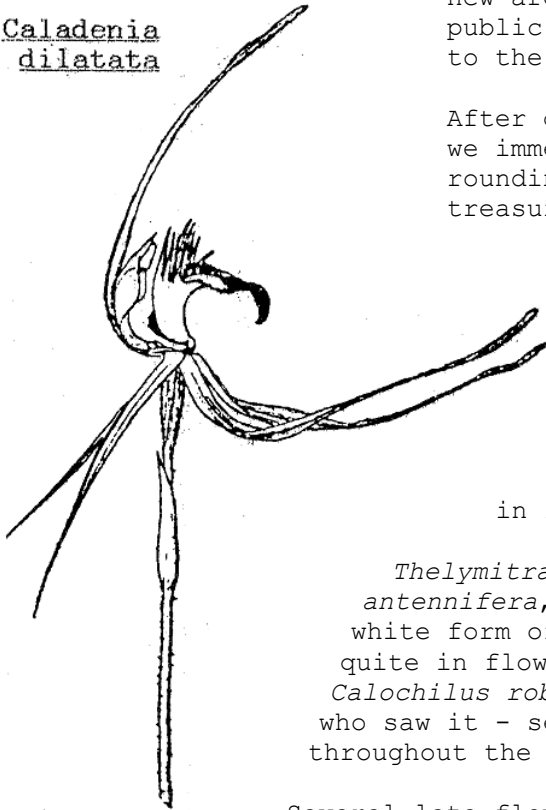
ECHUNGA POLICE TRAINING RESERVE

SUNDAY OCTOBER 21, 1990

John Peace

On a cool and windy Sunday morning we met at the Jupiter Creek Goldfields near Mylor. The weather did not seem to deter approximately 20 keen orchid spotters from attending to survey a new area for Orchids as members of the public are not generally allowed access to the reserve.

Caladenia
dilatata



After driving into the Reserve Car Park, we immediately became aware that the surrounding area was an orchid and wildflower treasure trove.

We sighted large colonies of *Glossodia major*, varying from a pure white form to mauve and purple. Several *Caladenias* were sighted (*C menziesii*, *C reticulata*, *C dilatata* and *C carnea*). *Acianthus caudatus* and *Cyrtostylis reniformis* were also in flower.

Thelymitras were also represented, especially *T antennifera*, and *T pauciflora* - also a rarer white form of *T pauciflora*. *T rubra* were not quite in flower. A magnificent specimen of *Calochilus robertsonii* was admired by everyone who saw it - several of this species were seen throughout the area but not in any great number.

Several late flowering *Pterostylis* were found. A rare species of *P plumosa* caused great interest to those of us who had not seen this species before. *P foliata* and *P pedunculata* were also found in several small colonies.

We temporarily adjourned for lunch - the more organised members of the group having a barbecue, while the rest of us ate our sandwiches! Feeling greatly refreshed we continued our search for more plants, this time in an area that had been burnt by a bushfire the previous summer.

This was truly a sight for sore eyes. The area was covered in wildflowers - mainly *Burchardia* (milkmaids) interspersed with *Tetratheca pilosa*, and amongst this riot of colour, *Glossodia major*, *Diuris corymbosa* and many large colonies of *Thelymitra antennifera* and *T ixioides* in bud. Had the weather been a little sunnier we would possibly have seen more of these in flower.

After a lot of careful searching,
several *Lyperanthus nigricans* were
spotted close by a small colony of
Prasophyllum fuscum - much to the
delight of the photographers amongst us

I'm sure everyone enjoyed this day out
Many thanks to Geoff Edwards for
organising this field trip and to the
S A Police Department for allowing us
access to their training reserve

Orchids seen in unburnt area:

Acianthus caudatus
Caladenia carnea
C dilatata
C menziesii,
C reticulata
Calochilus robertsonii
Cyrtostylis reniformis
Diuris corymbosa
Genoplesium nigricans (leaves only)
Glossodia major (white and Purple forms)
Pterostylis foliata
P pedunculata
P plumosa
Thelymitra antennifera
T aristata
T ixioides
T rubra
T pauciflora (blue and white)

Orchids seen in burnt area:

Diuris corymbosa
Genoplesium nigricans
Glossodia major (white and Purple forms)
Lyperanthus nigricans
Thelymitra antennifera
Prasophyllum fuscum
Thelymitra antennifera
T ixioides

MONADENIA BRACTEATA

Roy Hargreaves

The National Parks and Wildlife service have been advised of the
distribution, of the orchid weed *Monadenia bracteata* as recorded
in the Native Orchid society of South Australia Journals, Vol
12, Nos 3,7,9, and Vol 14, No 3, N.P.W Service believe that
the whole plants should be removed - including tubers and sealed
in plastic bags for disposal

Members who contemplate removing plants are reminded that Rangers
should be advised if possible Further information can be
obtained from Peter Candy - telephone 364 0152



Thelymitra aristata

FIRST AUSTRALIAN NATIVE ORCHID CONFERENCE AND SHOW

WOLLONGONG, SEPTEMBER 1990

What a fantastic Conference this first Australian event turned out to be! It was held at the University of Wollongong from 28 to 30 September, 1990 Approximately 220 registrants attended from all states of Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea as well as overseas visitors from Africa, England, Europe, Japan and the U.S.A

The lecture program covered every aspect of our native orchids and were very well attended, The last day was devoted to conservation topics After lunch each ANOS group gave a 10 minute resume of their activities Les Nesbitt spoke for NOSSA After that an open forum was held. A common thread for all areas was lack of funds and motivated people to cope with the wide-spread destruction of orchid habitats.

A major orchid show was held in the University Sports pavilion ANOS groups and individuals from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland staged displays. There were also tables for single exhibits. The species epiphytes were magnificent although I was a little disappointed with the hybrid *Dendrobiums*. The heavy rain in autumn for the past two years in New South Wales had taken its toll.

A large plant sales area took up one-third of the hall. Judging was done by the N.S.W. ANOS Judging Panel. Judges from other State groups were not permitted to judge except for awards

A NOSSA member won the three championships given for terrestrials:

- Champion Terrestrial Species was *Caladenia patersonii* "Wollongong" and this pot of three flowering plants was also Grand Champion of the show. This is a clone from Western Australia

- Champion Terrestrial Hybrid was *Diuris* Pioneer "Prince" and this potful was also awarded the Ira Butler Trophy for Best Native Hybrid

- Champion Terrestrial Specimen was given to *Diuris punctata* "Longtails".

Reserve Champion was *Dendrobium* Elated, a beautiful large white with apple green lip. This hybrid was bred from New Guinea species such *D. atrovioleaceum*.

There were some wonderful moments and plenty of opportunities to mix and talk orchids with enthusiasts from every corner of the world. This fellowship and swapping of information is the best part of attending a Conference. On the last day many were looking towards the next Australasian Orchid conference.

NEW MEMBERS' GROUP

The back verandah, next to the mini-rainforest, was a cool setting for the new members first outing. This took the form of a talk and discussion - the subject being basic orchids - followed by tea and scones, then a visit to the growing areas giving the new members a first hand look at one member's methods of growing his many different genera of orchids.

As terrestrial tubers become dormant this time of the year the next activity will be a potting demonstration and discussion on soils used by various members. Following this members will pot up tubers for themselves under supervision. This should be a good practical start to becoming a terrestrial grower as caring for these pots as the season progresses will be a part of our program. All interested are welcome regardless of when you joined the NOSSA club.

When Sunday, 2 December, 1990

Where residence of
Graham and Jan Burford,
25 David Ave Findon.

Time 2.00 p.m.

Please wear name tag, bring gloves if required Queries and information between meetings telephone

Don Wells 361 6030
Graham and Jan Burford - 45 3085

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs G Lock, Rosslyn Park, Mrs M Ciccone, Firle
Ms A Lock, Beulah Park

VACANCIES FOR 1991

NOSSA will require a new Treasurer from 1991 as our long standing and hard working Treasurer, Ron Robjohns has decided to let someone else have a go. Please give this vacancy some thought before the A.G.M. as it is an integral part of the Society's management structure.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Members are advised that our normal library services will not be provided at the Christmas break-up meeting in November. Outstanding books will be able to be returned at that meeting, however, and members are reminded that all books must be returned.

A complete listing of our Reference and Lending Library titles will be published in this and forthcoming Journals for the assistance of members:

REFERENCE LIBRARY

Additions to Orchidaceous Plants of South Australia, R.S Rogers
 Australian Orchids in J.E. Smith herbarium, M.A Clements and P.J Cribb
 Biology and Distribution of *Rhizanthella gardneri*, Dixon and Pate
 Bulletin of Western Australian Herbarium, Department of Agriculture, W.A
 Carapee Hill Conservation Park, N.C.S of S.A
 Checklist of Australian Native Orchid Hybrids, A.N.O.S
 Checklist of *Corybas* (Salisbury), R Bates
 Checklist of North Queensland Orchids, A Dockrill
 Conservation Strategy - South Australian Perspective, Environment Protection Council S.A
 Critical Review of South Australian *Prasophyllum*, R.S Rogers
 Directory of Non-Government Groups in South Australia, Dept of Environment
 Environment and Planning Annual Report 84-85, Dept Environment and Planning
 Environment and Planning Journal, No. 1, Dept Environment and Planning
 Environment and Planning Journal, No. 4, Dept Environment and Planning
 Environment and Planning Journal, No. 5, Dept Environment and Planning

(to be continued)

LENDING LIBRARY

A Book for Orchid Lovers, Orchid Club of South Australia
 A Field Guide to New Zealand Native Orchids, Dorothy Cooper,
 A Golden Guide to Orchids, Shuttleworth, Zim, Dillon
 A Guide to Native Australian Orchids, Roger Bedford
 A Year of Orchids, Clifton Pugh
 ANOS, Victorian Group Bulletin, 1975-77
 ANOS, Victorian Group Bulletin, 1977-81
 ALCOA Portland (Environmental Project), G.W Carr
 Australian Indigenous Orchids, Dockrill
 Australian Native Orchids
 Australian Native Orchids in Colour, Cady and Rotherham
 Australian Native Orchid Seminar
 Australian Native Orchids Hybrid Guide, John Kavulak
 Australian Orchids, Rosa Fiveash

(to be continued)



TUBERBANK - 1990

A *list* and details of tubers available this year will be printed in the December Journal

To enable this listing to be complete and accurate, all members who are prepared to donate tubers - are asked to provide accurate information concerning the names of native species and/or hybrid terrestrial orchid tubers by November 30

All species and hybrid tubers are needed. Any donation of tubers will be greatly appreciated. No quantity is too small.

Only information is required at present, collection of tubers will be arranged in December.

In addition, all members prepared to donate photographic slide boxes or other similar small boxes suitable for the packaging and distribution of tubers are asked to contact either Roy Hargreaves or the Tuberbank Co-ordinator, Philip Matthews

Your Society will be greatly appreciative of your assistance- to ensure a successful 1990 Tuberbank

Contact: Philip Matthews
9 Southern Terrace
HOLDEN HILL SA 5088

Telephone: 261 2359

MONADENIA

A WEEDY ALIEN ORCHID

Much enlarged.



Native orchids and lilies are among the delights of our bush, and all species are protected plants

But *Monadenia bracteata* is a very different kind of orchid which has recently been introduced to the Adelaide Hills from South Africa. It is a garden escape, like the many former garden bulbs which now replace the native ground flora where they form dense colonies. *Monadenia* spreads by dust-sized seeds which can be carried for miles on the wind. Every flower produces seed as the plant is self-pollinating. Do we need another introduced weed in our diminishing native vegetation?

APPEARANCE

Monadenia is a perennial with an underground tuber which is dormant for much of the year. It forms a rosette of many narrow, tapered leaves in early spring. In October it produces a flowering stem 15-30 cm high carrying a dense spike of up to 50 tiny brown flowers among overlapping green bracts. The whole flower spike is thick and fleshy, resembling a brownish spear of asparagus.

HOW TO REMOVE

When in flower, the plants are easily dug out with their tubers. As the tuber is only a few centimetres directly below the rosette and usually solitary, it can be dug out with a minimum of soil disturbance by inserting a screwdriver almost vertically beside the plant and levering up. Remember that all disturbed soil provides a seedbed for annual weeds. Dispose of the plants in a sealed bag to avoid spreading seeds.

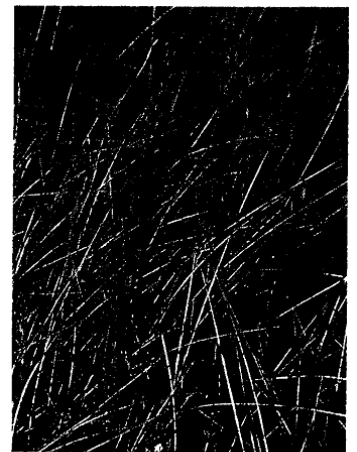
Graham Bell and Helen Vonow at the State Herbarium (228 2311) would like to know the location of new infestations and can provide more information.

Hand pulling or digging can also be used to clear the bush of other bulb weeds—such as wild gladiolus, iris, freesia, sparaxis, and especially the large bulbil *Watsonia* which is a proclaimed species in some parts of the State.

Acknowledgements

Animal and Plant Control Commission of South Australia—Financial assistance
Mrs E Robertson—Technical advice and illustration
Mr R Bates—Illustration

SPSA C3711



Growing with grasses.